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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2 Application No: 10/527,013 Confirmation No.: N/A
3 Applicant: YOUNG-MIN SONG & KYEONGIL KIM
4 Filing Date: MARCH 7, 2005
5 Title: AUXILIARY TOOL FOR EXAMINATION OF BIOPSY SPECIMEN
6 Group Art Unit: N/A
7 Examiner: N/A
8 Attorney Docket No: RODA 101

May 26, 2005

Bellevue, Washington 98004

11 Mail Stop: Patent Applications.
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14 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER R37 C.F.R. 1.97

15 In compliance with Applicant's and their attorney's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR
16 1.56, the Applicant's do hereby submit the following Information Disclosure Statement,
17 Form PTO - 1449, and copies of the references listed thereon.

18 A patent search was manually conducted for the invention described in the above-
19 referenced patent application. In the course of the search, no patents were found for an
20 apparatus that has the same structural features or that operates in the same manner such as the
21 invention listed above. The following six (6) patents, however, were noted as being of
22 interest and are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention as references AA - AF. The
23 significance of each listed reference is as follows:

1 AA. Japanese Pat. Publication No. 2002-303568 (Takezaki, T), which comprises
2 introducing a specimen into a storage cassette, solidifying the specimen with a fixing support
3 containing glucomannan and formalin, gelating the solidified specimen with acetone,
4 polyethylene glycol or glycerine, and the like, placing the gelated specimen at a lower portion
5 of the storage cassette and embedding the gelated specimen in paraffin, sectioning a resulting
6 block using a cutting tool to provide histological or cytological preparations.

7 AB. Reference U.S. Patent No. 5,137,710 (Smalley et al.) discloses a method of
8 preparing a cell block, comprising placing a paper filter having a circular aperture in a middle
9 region thereof into a carrier that provides a recess, depositing a sample to be examined and a
10 gel medium, such as an algin medium, in the aperture of the paper filter, and solidifying the
11 sample.

12 AC. Reference U.S. Patent No. 5,610,022 (Battifora) discloses an internal control
13 or standard is provided for the direct quantitative assay by immunocytochemistry of target
14 molecules in tissue specimens and the like. The control may be subjected to the same
15 conditions including immunostaining as the tissue specimen. Immunoreactivity of the control
16 and the specimen before and after processing is compared by physical measurement, e.g.,
17 optical density as determined by a cell analysis computer system. The immunoreactivity
18 difference of the control provides a quantative standard useful to determine the effect of the
19 processing on the immunoreactivity of the specimen.

20 AD. Reference U.S. Patent No. 6,207,408 (Essenfeld et al.) discloses a process and
21 apparatus for rapid, continuous flow histological processing of tissues is disclosed. The steps
22 of fixation, dehydration, clearing and impregnation are performed in less than one hour; this

1 allows a pathologist to evaluate samples shortly after receipt, perhaps while the patient is still
2 in the operating room. Rapid and continuous processing is accomplished by decreasing the
3 thickness of tissue sections, use of non-aqueous solutions composed of admixtures of
4 solutions, solution exchange at elevated temperature and with agitation, and impregnation
5 under vacuum pressure. The patient in surgery is thus provided with point-of-care surgical
6 pathology.

7 AE. JP 08211047 A (Takezaki, T.,JP) 20 Aug 1996

8 AF. JP 10239222 A (Takezaki, T., JP) 11 Sep 1998

9 The Applicants' and their attorney submit that the above-cited references taken alone
10 or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. None of the
11 references disclose or claim an auxiliary tool for examination of a biopsy specimen,
12 comprising a plate and a cover, each of which is in a gel form to allow for flowing inward
13 and outward of a solvent. The plate is equipped with at least one depression provided on a
14 surface thereof that acts as a space into which a biopsy specimen is introduced, and the cover
15 is equipped with at least one projection provided on a surface for covering the depression of
16 the plate.

17 The listed references relate only to the general field of the disclosure and do not
18 constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims; they are
19 cited only as constituting the closest art of which the Applicants' and their attorney are aware.

20 Respectfully submitted,

21 

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)Applicant(s): **YOUNG-MIN SONG & KYEONGIL KIM**

Docket No.

RODA 101

Application No.

10/527,013

Filing Date

03/07/2005

Examiner

N/A

Customer No.

28009

Group Art Unit

N/AInvention: **AUXILIARY TOOL FOR EXAMINATION OF BIOPSY SPECIMEN**I hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on

MAY 26, 2005*(Date)***DEAN A. CRAINE***(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)*
*(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)***Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.**